

# **National Radon Action Month Newsletter**

Welcome to EPA's National Radon Action Month Newsletter (January 17, 2008). Below, you will find the latest updates, tools, and tips to help you make the most of National Radon Action Month in January. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers, and is responsible for 20,000 lung cancer deaths annually. By holding radon awareness events and activities in your community, you are joining the national effort to double the lives saved from radon exposure over the next five years.

#### **Local Groups Host More Than 285 National Radon Action Month Activities!**

Thank you to all radon partners who have posted activities on the <u>National Radon Action</u> <u>Month Web site!</u> Special recognition goes to Michigan, with 38 events planned—our top state so far. Learn about the <u>featured activity</u> taking place in Michigan in January and view the complete <u>list of states</u> with the most activities planned.

There is still time to conduct events and activities and share them for January! Please remember to submit your National Radon Action Month activities using the National Radon Action Month Activity Submittal Form by February 8, 2008. EPA encourages all organizations to enter activities on behalf of their state. Check the Web site to see an updated list of the states with the most activities.

### Radon Featured on EPA Main Page for January

The <u>EPA main page</u> in January is dedicated to promoting radon awareness and prevention. It highlights the issue of radon risk reduction with special features and, of course, the National Radon Action Month Web banner. Remember to download a National Radon Action Month <u>banner</u> for your Web site!

Special features include the first ever radon "Green Scene" videos – one in <u>English</u> featuring an interview with Elizabeth Cotsworth, Director of the Office of Air and Radiation at the EPA, and the other featuring <u>Spanish speakers</u>. Other features include links to the new <u>Spanishlanguage portal</u>, EPA's Kristy Miller as the guest blogger with her blog "<u>My Favorite Green Things</u>," and a radon-themed quiz question to "<u>Test Your Enviro-Q</u>." The "Test Your Enviro-Q" feature highlights important environmental issues and helpful information that everyone can use while engaging people in a fun and easy way.

EPA also issued a <u>press release</u> on January 10 with the attention-grabbing title, "Radon Causes 100 Times More Deaths than Carbon Monoxide Poisoning - EPA Launches National Radon Action Month." Submit it to your local news outlet to help raise awareness about radon in your community! For tips, see the <u>Event Planning Kit</u>.

### Radon Leaders and Poster Contest Winners Honored at Ceremony in Washington, DC

The Radon Awards and Recognition Ceremony was held on January 10, 2008, to recognize leaders in radon-resistant new construction and to celebrate the 2008 winners of the children's National Radon Poster Contest. State representatives, radon professionals, community groups, and non-profit organizations joined together to celebrate their accomplishments at EPA Headquarters in Washington, DC. <u>Learn more</u> about this year's radon leaders and Poster Contest winners.

It's not too late to host an awards ceremony for your state or local poster contest winners to show your appreciation of the young winners, raise radon awareness, and promote risk reduction actions locally. Contact Kristin Lolmaugh at <a href="lolmaugk@nsc.org">lolmaugk@nsc.org</a> to order a no-cost Toolkit to help you plan and implement a local poster contest awards ceremony. Please remember to share your poster contest awards activities by completing the <a href="Activity Submittal Form">Activity Submittal Form</a>.

#### **Success Story: National Radon Action Month Proclamation in Kansas**

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment's early planning to secure a proclamation for National Radon Action Month enabled them to launch a comprehensive, high-profile radon outreach campaign in January 2007, resulting in doubled test kit sales. Learn more about how Kansas successfully worked with their local officials on page 27 of the National Radon Action Month Event Planning Kit.

## **New and Improved Featured Resources**

- New Spanish Language Resources
  - A new National Radon Action Month Web page, a Radon Fact Sheet and radon PSAs are now available in Spanish. <u>Learn more</u> about Spanish-language resources.
- New National Radon Action Month Banners
  - New National Radon Action Month Web site banners are available! View the <u>banners</u> and select one for your Web site now!

# Only 14 Days Until the End of National Radon Action Month... Remember to Track Your Results!

As you conduct your activities in January, remember to track your results! Evaluating your activities is important in determining their success, and is essential to improving the results of future events. Use the checklist below to begin measuring your results. Download EPA's <a href="Event Planning Kit">Event Planning Kit</a> for more information about tracking your success.

#### **This Edition's Checklist**

the	Determine how your activities contribute to your goals. Find helpful tips and information in <a href="Event Planning Kit">Event Planning Kit</a> .
info	Collect information on the number of people reached, the number of test kits or or ormational brochures that were distributed, and the number of mitigations or homes built
	n radon-resistant new construction as a result of your efforts.

Record your success! EPA is eager to share the results of your successful activities with our nationwide network of radon partners. Watch for a follow-up survey in February and share your local results that are contributing to the national effort to save lives, along with your feedback and recommendations on how EPA can help.
Start thinking about how to build upon your success and improve your results for next year's National Radon Action Month!

If you would like more information about any of the topics discussed in this newsletter or would like to subscribe to the National Radon Action Month newsletter, please send an e-mail to <a href="mailto:radonevents@cadmusgroup.com">radonevents@cadmusgroup.com</a>.

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